

Career Information

Informatics

Master of Public Health

The informatics master of public health (iMPH) is a two-year graduate program that prepares public health professionals with skills and competencies that contribute to the management, analysis and dissemination of personal and population health-related information.

Program Goals

- To provide a comprehensive and integrated educational experience encompassing public health, health informatics and health administration themes.
- To produce public health professionals who can gather, manage, analyze and disseminate personal and population health-related information.
- To advance the federal goal of maintaining electronic health records for every American by the year 2015.

Career Opportunities

Graduates will be able to manage information enterprises of:

- Health care organizations
- Public health agencies
- Health data organizations
- Research institutes
- Industries including pharmaceutical, durable medical equipment and insurance

Admission Requirements

- Official transcript from each college or university attended, mailed to MCG from the institution.
- Three references (Forms included with application; contact Office of Academic Admissions for additional forms.)
- GRE scores, less than five years old, mailed to MCG by the Educational Testing Service*
- Computer literacy and access to an Internet-connected computer with Windows 2000 or higher or Macintosh System 8.0 or higher

*The GRE requirement may be waived for applicants holding earned doctorates.

Competitive Applicant

- A competitive applicant will have a GPA of 3.0 or higher and a minimum combined GRE score of 1000 from verbal and quantitative sections.
- Additional information available at www.mcg.edu/students/GradPgms/gradapply.pdf

Program of Study

More than three quarters of the program is delivered using on-line and distance education courses. The remaining course work, delivered using a traditional face-to-face method and required for completion of the program, is offered on the MCG campus.

At least 48 total semester didactic credit hours, three hours of directed study experience and a two-credit internship are required. Additional electives are encouraged. A unique opportunity to pursue certification as a registered health information administrator (RHIA) is offered to those students interested in additional didactic courses.

Year One

Fall semester (12 hours):

- Introduction to environmental health
- Biostatistics I
- Computerized health information systems
- Public health informatics

Spring semester (12 hours):

- Introduction to epidemiology
- Fundamentals of health promotion
- Health care information requirements and standards
- Health care data content and structure

Summer semester (5 hours):

- Health decision support systems
- Internship

Year Two

Fall semester (12 hours):

- Health care management principles
- Health data management and knowledge discovery
- Health law and ethics
- Health care financial management

Spring semester (12 hours):

- Human resources management
- Health care performance improvement
- Health information system analysis and project management
- Capstone course

continued



Technical Requirements

Students must be computer literate and have access to a PC running Windows XP Professional and connected to a broadband Internet Service Provider. Hardware and software requirements for iMPH online courses:

IBM-compatible PC

- Pentium II/233 MHz processor or higher; Pentium III/4 processor recommended
- 64MB of RAM (128MB or higher preferred)
- CD-ROM, CD-RW or DVD-RW recommended
- 20GB hard drive (30GB or higher preferred)
- SVGA (1024 x 768 or higher) display
- Full duplex sound card with speakers/headphones and microphone
- Windows operating system, Windows 2000 or higher recommended
- 56Kb modem and/or Ethernet card or wireless card
- Internet connection through an ISP account or a network; cable, DSL or satellite high-speed access highly recommended

Macintosh

- PowerPC 120MHz processor or higher; G4 processor recommended
- 64MB of RAM (128MB or higher preferred)
- CD-ROM, CD-RW or DVD-RW recommended
- 20GB hard drive (30GB or higher preferred)
- 1024 x 768 or higher display resolution, thousands of colors
- Full duplex sound with a microphone
- System 8.0 or higher operating system
- 56kb modem and/or Ethernet card or wireless card
- Internet connection through an ISP account or a network; cable, DSL or satellite high-speed access highly recommended

Software

- Netscape 6.0 or higher, or Microsoft Internet Explorer 6.0 or higher
- Windows Media Player 9.0 or higher for access to Tegrity presentations
- Microsoft Office XP Professional (or higher to include Access)
- Adobe Acrobat Reader 6.0 or higher
- Additional course specific applications

Proprietary browser versions (those not downloaded directly from Netscape or Microsoft) may not work reliably with online systems. If you use other “Office” type programs, please note that some professors may require you to convert your files to a MS-Office compatible format for online submission. Your connection to the Internet may initiate behind a firewall; however, the firewall settings may have to be adjusted to allow for proper functioning of our Web-based tools.

Online Course Readiness

Assessment Tool

The University System of Georgia provides an online tool to help you determine if you are a good candidate for taking online courses. Visit <http://www.alt.usg.edu/sort/> to assess your readiness.

How to Get an Application

To receive an application or for more information about this career field, contact:

Office of Academic Admissions
170 Kelly Building-Administration
Medical College of Georgia
Augusta, Georgia 30912-7310
Telephone: 706-721-2725
Toll-free: 800-519-3388
Fax: 706-721-7279
E-mail: gradadm@mcg.edu
Web site: www.mcg.edu/admissions

**The Medical College
of Georgia is an Equal
Opportunity Educational
Institution.**